

INFORMATION LETTER

Not for
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

No. 1397

Washington, D. C.

July 26, 1952

FDA Statement of Policy on Fluoridated Water

A statement of policy from the Food and Drug Administration with respect to fluoridated water and the use of such water in food processing was published in the *Federal Register* of July 23.

The portion dealing with use of fluoridated water in food processing is of particular interest to canners in communities where the water supply is currently being fluoridated or where initiation of such treatment is under consideration.

Following is the text of the announcement:

TITLE 21—FOOD AND DRUGS

Chapter I—Food and Drug Administration, Federal Security Agency

PART 3—STATEMENTS OF GENERAL POLICY OR INTERPRETATION

FLUORIDATED WATER AND PROCESSED FOODS CONTAINING FLUORIDATED WATER

Pursuant to section 3 of the Administrative Procedure Act (60 Stat. 237, 238; 5 U.S.C. 1002), the following statement of policy is issued:

§3.27 *Status of fluoridated water and foods prepared with fluoridated water under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.* (a) The program for fluoridation of public water supplies recommended by the Federal Security Agency, through the Public Health Service, contemplates the controlled addition of fluorine at a level optimum for the prevention of dental caries.

(b) Public water supplies do not ordinarily come under the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Nevertheless, a substantial number of inquiries have been received concerning the status of such water under the provisions of the act and the status, in interstate commerce, of commercially prepared foods in which fluoridated water has been used.

(c) The Federal Security Agency will regard water supplies containing fluorine, within the limitations recommended by the Public Health Service, as not actionable under the Federal

(Please turn to page 228)

Production of Tin Plate and Cans To Be Resumed

With settlement of the steel strike, production of tin plate and cans will be resumed as soon as possible in order to supply cans for resumption of seasonal canning operations.

The steel strike was settled July 24 on direct order from the President, acting in response to urgent and strong arguments from major farm organizations, which pointed out that as a result of the 52-day strike, crops were spoiling and that if the strike were allowed to continue, losses to farmers would be catastrophic and that the widespread impact on the nation's food supply would be a great irretrievable loss.

Settlement of the strike will permit release of stocks of tin plate which have been held in steel mills since the start of the strike on

Can Order, M-25

The National Production Authority on July 18 directed can manufacturers to use all available tin plate to fill orders for cans for packing perishable foods.

The action was taken in an amendment to Direction 4 to the can order, M-25, and was intended to strengthen the intent of this direction. As issued June 30, this stated:

"Subject to the provisions of section 8 of NPA Order M-25, every can manufacturer shall schedule his operations (including the use of all tin plate in his possession, and his ordering of any such plate) so as to insure, so far as practicable, preference in the filling of orders for cans for packing perishable food products."

The July 18 amendment deleted the words "so far as practicable."

Tin Plate Expansion Goal

Expansion of facilities for producing electrolytic tin plate has been called for by the Defense Production Administration in an "expansion goal" just announced.

The goal for electrolytic tin plate is 4,100,000 net tons of capacity by January 1, 1955. This would be an increase of 1,300,000 net tons over the annual capacity of 2,800,000 net tons on January 1, 1950.

June 2. However, inasmuch as the strike was called on short notice, satisfactory preparations for storage of the plate could not be made, and during the strike the steel companies were not allowed to inspect the plate. Consequently, present condition of the plate is not known.

Tin plate for cans for perishable foods is among the steel products on which production is to be resumed first.

Government agencies, in anticipation of the strike settlement, have made plans to expedite the production and distribution of tin plate. The Interstate Commerce Commission has promised assistance in supplying box cars to move the plate out of the mills.

The N.C.A. has concentrated for three weeks on efforts to impress responsible government officials with the urgency of resuming production of tin plate and cans immediately.

During the week of July 6, when the steel strike was only a little more than a month old, N.C.A. pointed out to the President, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Secretary of Defense that immediate resumption of tin plate production was necessary if the can companies were to meet all the requirements for cans for seasonal packs.

The N.C.A. press release of July 18, calling public attention to the loss of food resulting from the can shortage,

(Please turn to page 228)

STATISTICS

Canned Fruit and Vegetable Stocks and Shipments

Reports on canners' stocks and shipments of canned apples, apple sauce, RSP cherries, green and wax beans, corn, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, tomato juice, catsup, and chili sauce have been compiled by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics, and details have been mailed to all canners packing these items.

Canned Apple Stocks and Shipments

	1951-52 (basis 8/10)
Carryover, Aug. 1.....	1,953,263
Pack.....	3,388,249
Total supply.....	5,341,512
Stocks, July 1.....	1,548,574
Shipments during June.....	314,785
Shipments, Aug. 1 to July 1.....	3,792,938

Apple Sauce Stocks and Shipments

	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, Aug. 1.....	3,497,089
Pack.....	9,380,851
Total supply.....	12,877,940
Stocks, July 1.....	2,361,188
Shipments during June.....	1,018,196
Shipments, Aug. 1 to July 1.....	10,516,752

1952 Sweet Corn Acreage for Canning

Sweet corn planted for canning in 1952 totaled 453,327 acres, as compared with the 1951 planted acreage of 421,750 acres, according to a report by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics. The figures include the acreage planted for canning and do not include acreage planted for freezing, brining, or other forms of processing.

Canned RSP Cherry Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1.....	30,332	29,950
Pack.....	5,022,951	4,672,041
Total supply.....	5,053,283	4,701,991
Stocks, July 1.....	29,950	212,949
Shipments during June.....	57,913	79,919
Shipments, July 1 to July 1.....	5,023,333	4,489,042

Green and Wax Bean Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1.....	1,619,626	1,395,850
Pack.....	20,213,355	19,866,974
Total supply.....	21,832,981	21,262,824
Stocks, July 1.....	1,395,850	2,453,035
Shipments during June.....	704,217	941,883
Shipments, July 1 to July 1.....	20,437,131	18,809,789

Canned Corn Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, Aug. 1.....	6,466,080	373,375
Pack.....	21,645,243	30,188,540
Total supply.....	28,111,923	30,561,915
Stocks, July 1.....	725,725	923,426
Shipments during June.....	662,335	1,231,273
Shipments, Aug. 1 to July 1.....	27,386,198	29,638,489

Pumpkin and Squash Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1.....	123,449	.....
Pack.....	1,777,803	3,480,634
Total supply.....	1,901,252	3,480,634
Stocks, July 1.....	.....	51,976
Shipments, April 1 to July 1.....	32,540	63,534
Shipments, July 1 to July 1.....	1,901,252	3,428,658

Canned Tomato Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1.....	1,868,427	55,355
Pack.....	18,724,350	27,672,309
Total supply.....	20,592,777	27,727,754
Stocks, July 1.....	55,355	1,726,877
Shipments, April 1 to July 1.....	530,381	2,657,268
Shipments, July 1 to July 1.....	20,537,422	26,000,877

Tomato Juice Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1.....	3,004,135	917,071
Pack.....	22,740,658	31,625,534
Total supply.....	25,744,793	32,542,605
Stocks, July 1.....	917,071	5,304,954
Shipments, April 1 to July 1.....	2,991,100	5,482,988
Shipments, July 1 to July 1.....	24,827,722	27,237,651

Catsup Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1.....	2,302,775	522,272
Pack.....	14,792,598	24,015,126
Total supply.....	17,095,373	24,537,398
Stocks, July 1.....	522,272	5,760,622
Shipments, Dec. 1 to July 1.....	n.a.	0,875,503
Shipments, July 1 to July 1.....	16,573,101	18,776,776

n.a.—Not available.

Chili Sauce Stocks and Shipments

	1950-51	1951-52 (actual cases)
Carryover, July 1.....	493,060	110,633
Pack.....	1,814,481	3,219,623
Total supply.....	2,307,541	3,330,256
Stocks, July 1.....	110,633	756,941
Shipments, Dec. 1 to July 1.....	n.a.	1,154,559
Shipments, July 1 to July 1.....	2,196,908	2,573,315

n.a.—Not available.

Canned Baby Food Stocks

Details of the canned baby food supply, stock and shipment situation are reported by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics as follows:

	1951	1952 (thousands of dozens)
Canners stocks, Jan. 1.....	62,453	57,522
Pack, Jan. through June.....	53,971	53,754
Supply.....	116,424	111,276
Canner stocks, July 1.....	53,923	42,537
Canner shipments, June.....	9,830	11,533
Canner shipments, Jan. through June.....	62,501	68,739

1951-52 Season Shipments

Season shipments of canned fruits and vegetables from canners' warehouses, with comparisons, have been compiled by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

Shipments of the major canned vegetables were almost 13 million cases greater than shipments during the previous season and 22.7 million

1952 Corn Acreage for Canning

	Country Gentlemen (acres)	Other White (acres)	Golden (acres)	Total (acres)
East				
Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire.....	.....	11,343	11,343	11,343
New York.....	.....	18,193	18,193	18,193
Maryland and Delaware.....	4,074	1,201	26,734	32,009
Pennsylvania.....	700	1,255	8,625	10,580
Other Eastern States ¹	116	151	408	675
Midwest				
Ohio.....	850	625	12,180	13,655
Indiana.....	10,625	5,424	20,140	36,189
Illinois.....	23,123	.....	43,837	66,959
Wisconsin.....	653	2,846	108,160	111,659
Minnesota.....	900	23	78,011	78,933
Iowa and Nebraska.....	5	2,128	28,425	30,558
Other Midwest States ²	1,400	1,800	5,805	9,005
West				
Western States ³.....	.....	.....	33,479	33,479
U. S. Total.....	42,445	15,542	395,340	453,327

¹ Other Eastern states: Va. and W. Va. ² Other Midwest states: Ark., La., Mich., Okla., Tenn., and Tex. ³ Western states: Colo., Idaho, Mont., Ore., Utah, Wash., and Wyo.

cases above the five-year average, 1946-47 through 1950-51. Canned green and wax beans was the only vegetable to show shipments in 1951-52 that were below the previous season.

Canned fruit shipments were 1.8 million cases less than a year ago but 5.3 million cases above the five-year average. Peaches and apricots were the only fruits for which shipments in 1951-52 were above the previous season, but all fruits except sweet cherries showed shipments above the five-year average.

Season Shipments of Canned Vegetables*

	1950-51	1951-52	1947-51 ave.
	(millions of actual cases)		
Total.....	161.8	174.6	152.9
Asparagus.....	4.5	4.6	4.2
Corn.....	27.4	29.6	29.8
Beans, green and wax.....	20.4	18.1	16.2
Beets.....	7.8	7.9	6.3
Carrots.....	1.9	2.2	2.0
Cateup.....	16.6	18.8	16.1 ^b
Chili sauce.....	2.2	2.6	2.1 ^b
Peas.....	33.8	34.2	30.7
Pumpkin and squash.....	1.9	3.4	2.0
Tomatoes.....	20.5	26.0	20.8
Tomato juice.....	24.8	27.2	22.7

* Shipments to July 1 except asparagus (March 1) and peas (to June 1).

^b Four-year average, 1948-51.

Season Shipments of Canned Fruits

	1950-51	1951-52	1947-51 ave.
	(millions of actual cases)		
Total.....	62.4	60.6	54.3
Apples.....	3.7	3.5	2.6
Apple sauce.....	9.6	9.5	7.3
Apricots.....	4.5	4.6	4.0
Cherries, sweet.....	1.3	1.1	1.2
Cherries, RSP.....	5.0	4.4	3.8
Fruit cocktail ^a	11.4	9.8	10.0
Peaches.....	19.7	21.1	19.3
Pears.....	7.2	6.6	6.1

^a Including fruits for salad and mixed fruits.

Green Peas for Processing

Prospects for production of green peas for processing declined nearly 6 percent during the first half of July, largely as the result of hot dry weather, and on July 15 a total of 445,380 tons for canning and freezing was indicated, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

While July 15 conditions were quite variable, declines in prospects since July 1 were indicated for nearly all of the northern tier of producing states. The indicated 1952 production is 13 percent less than the 1951 production of 509,890 tons but 7 percent

more than the average annual production for 1941-50 of 415,110 tons.

The July 15 indicated yield is 2,018 pounds of shelled peas per acre. This compares with 2,283 pounds obtained in 1951 and an average annual yield of 1,962 pounds for the 10-year period.

BAE is scheduled to report on harvested acreage and preliminary production of peas for processing on October 10. Following are production indications as of July 15, with comparisons:

State	1951 Indi- cated	1951 Re- vised	1952 Indi- cated	Change from 1951 (per- cent)
	—(tons—shelled)—			
Maine.....	8,650	9,770	4,840	-5
New York.....	30,120	26,980	20,000	-23
New Jersey.....	5,760	5,630	4,250	-25
Pennsylvania.....	17,600	14,700	11,520	-22
Ohio.....	3,140	2,500	2,000	-20
Indiana.....	4,370	2,670	2,460	-8
Illinois.....	34,620	31,650	24,500	-23
Michigan.....	5,800	5,670	4,200	-26
Wisconsin.....	148,350	160,330	137,350	-14
Minnesota.....	63,420	53,670	48,560	-10
Iowa.....	4,280	3,480	4,080	+17
Delaware.....	2,600	2,520	2,730	+8
Maryland.....	10,180	11,110	8,970	-19
Virginia.....	1,970	1,970	1,780	-10
Idaho.....	13,920	10,370	9,450	-9
Colorado.....	4,290	4,340	3,240	-25
Utah.....	14,100	14,000	8,300	-41
Washington.....	71,530	74,360	68,620	-8
Oregon.....	61,600	54,050	57,580	+7
California.....	14,230	13,600	15,910	+17
Other states ¹	3,400	6,520	4,380	-33
U. S. Total.....	523,930	509,890	445,380	-13

¹ Ark., Ga., Kans., Mo., Mont., Nehr., Okla., Tenn., Texas, W. Va., and Wyo.

1952 Canning Trade Almanac

The 1952 edition of *The Canning Trade Almanac*, a comprehensive reference manual on the canning industry, has been issued by *The Canning Trade*, 20 S. Gay St., Baltimore 2, Md. Copies are sold for \$2 each.

The almanac contains statistics on canned food packs and other aspects of the industry, food laws and regulations, recommended can sizes and box dimensions, labeling requirements, guides to machinery and supplies, and other statistical and historical data of concern to the industry.

The 1952 edition contains several new features, including summaries of fruit and vegetable packs, imports and exports, the baby food packs, and fruit spread production.

LABOR

Citrus Pulp and Waste Industry

The Wage and Hour Division of the Labor Department on July 18 denied a petition for review of its denial of an application to amend the seasonal industry determination for the citrus pulp and waste dehydrating industry in Florida and Texas so as to include within such industry the manufacture of citrus molasses in Florida.

Forthcoming Meetings

- July 30-August 8—New York State Cannery and Freezers Association, Inc., 18th Annual Mold Count School, Geneva Experiment Station, Geneva
- September 18-20—United States Wholesale Grocers Association, Fall Meeting, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.
- October 3-7—American Meat Institute, 47th Annual Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago
- October 16-17—National Pickle Packers Association, Annual Meeting, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago
- October 17—Ozark Cannery Association, Fall Meeting, Colonial Hotel, Springfield, Mo.
- October 23-25—Florida Cannery Association, Annual Meeting, Casa Blanca Hotel, Miami Beach
- October 26-30—National Association of Food Chains, Annual Meeting, Miami Beach
- November 3-4—Iowa-Nebraska Cannery Association, Annual Convention, Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines
- November 6—Illinois Cannery Association, Fall Meeting, Bismarck Hotel, Chicago
- November 10-11—Wisconsin Cannery Association, 46th Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee
- November 20-21—Indiana Cannery Association, Annual Convention, French Lick Springs Hotel, French Lick Springs
- November 24-25—Pennsylvania Cannery Association, 38th Annual Convention, Penn-Harris Hotel, Harrisburg
- December 1-2—Michigan Cannery Association, Fall Meeting, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids
- December 2-3—Ohio Cannery Association, Annual Convention, The Neil House, Columbus
- December 4-5—New York State Cannery and Freezers Association, Inc., 67th Annual Convention, Hotel Statler, Buffalo
- December 4-5—Tri-State Packers Association, 49th Annual Convention, Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.
- December 9—Minnesota Cannery Association, Annual Meeting, Hotel Radisson, Minneapolis

DEFENSE

A. W. Thiel Leaves OPS

A. W. Thiel, who has been serving as consultant and Chief of the Fruit and Vegetable Section of the OPS Food and Restaurant Division, left that position July 25 to return to his former assignment with Libby, McNeill & Libby.

Invitations for Bids

★ Quartermaster Purchasing Office—111 East 16th Street, New York 3, N. Y.; 1819 West Pershing Road, Chicago 9, Ill.; Oakland Army Base, Oakland 14, Calif.

Veterans Administration—Procurement Division, Veterans Administration, Wash. 25, D. C.

The Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act may apply to all operations performed after the date of notice of award if the total value of a contract is \$10,000 or over.

The QMC has invited sealed bids to furnish the following:

PIMENTOS—15,236 dozen No. 2½ cans. Bids due in Chicago under QM-11-609-53-6 by Aug. 12.

Tin Plate Supply Situation

(Concluded from page 225)

received wide publicity in newspapers, on radio and on television.

Much of the N.C.A. activity this week was directed to cooperation with farm organizations in pointing out to the government that as a result of the can shortage perishable food had already begun to spoil in the fields.

Efforts were directed toward impressing the government that without an immediate settlement of the steel dispute millions of tons of foods would be lost, farmers would suffer economic ruin, and consumers would be faced with a food shortage.

Three major farm organizations collaborated in sending the following telegram to the President on July 22:

"America's food supply is seriously threatened by rapid exhaustion of supply of tin cans. Estimate that even if steel production reactivated immediately, from 40 to 60 million cases canned foods totaling substantially over a million tons of food will be irretrievably lost. This is 14 percent of total 1952 perishable pack. Estimate each additional day's delay in restoring tin plate production will result in additional waste of food amounting to about 3 or 4 million cases per day. No effective alternative outlets for these perishable canning crops are available.

"This means disastrous losses to late season canning crop farmers and actual bankruptcy to many. Food supply of nation during coming year will be materially adversely affected. Low income families particularly depend upon canned foods. Reduced supply canned foods will increase price to consumers and may well force rationing all as a direct result of delay and stalemate even in the face of ample production of our farmers. We believe national interest and general welfare are of such overwhelming importance in this crisis affecting national food supply that we strongly

urge your intercession for release of tin plate in hands steel industry thus providing approximately 40 million cases of cans to operate our food canning industry for about two weeks pending reactivation of steel production.

"Herschel Newsom, Master,
The National Grange

"James G. Patton, President,
National Farmers Union

"D. W. Brooks, President,
National Council of Farmer
Cooperatives"

FDA Statement of Policy

(Concluded from page 225)

Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Similarly, commercially prepared foods within the jurisdiction of the act, in which a fluoridated water supply has been used in the processing operation, will not be regarded as actionable under the Federal law because of the fluorine content of the water so used, unless the process involves a significant concentration of fluorine from the water. In the latter instance the facts with respect to the particular case will be controlling.

(Sec. 701, 52 Stat. 1055; 21 U.S.C. 371)

Dated: July 17, 1952.

[SEAL] JOHN L. THURSTON,
Acting Administrator.

[F. R. Doc. 52-8041; Filed, July 22, 1952;
8:50 a.m.]

Changes in N.C.A. Committee Lists

The following changes should be made in the list of N.C.A. Committees published in the INFORMATION LETTER of March 1 and in the 1952 *Canners Directory*:

Board of Directors

Delete H. L. Aukerman, Caar Canning Co., Redkey, Ind.

Home Economics Committee

Substitute A. O. Verbeke, Libby, McNeill & Libby, for E. E. Willkie.

Labeling Committee

Substitute R. A. Simpson, Libby, McNeill & Libby, for A. O. Verbeke.

Public Relations Committee

Delete J. P. King, Birds Eye Division, General Foods Corp., Rochester, N. Y.

Technical Advisory Committee to the Raw Products Committee

Delete J. P. King, Birds Eye Division, General Foods Corp., Rochester, N. Y.

Convention Committee

Substitute A. O. Verbeke, Libby, McNeill & Libby, for E. E. Willkie.

Trust Indenture Committee

Substitute A. O. Verbeke, Libby, McNeill & Libby, for E. E. Willkie.

War Mobilization Committee

Substitute A. O. Verbeke, Libby, McNeill & Libby, for E. E. Willkie.

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